

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this is to provide notice of an exparte communication regarding WT Docket No. 01-184, Verizon Wireless' petition for forbearance from the wireless number portability (WNP) requirements.

On Thursday, March 21st, I had a phone call with Bryan Tramont, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy. I expressed my fear that CMRS carriers will use contract provisions to make porting out unattractive or unavailable and asked the Commission to issue, with its decision, rules clarifying that porting out a number will not automatically trigger a term contract violation: at the least, carriers must issue a new number and allow customers to continue paying out the existing contract rather than force them to pay a termination fee.

I also suggested that the Commission specify, at the time of its decision, a penalty for carriers that fail to comply or, at the least, require them to offer call forwarding at their own expense until they do implement WNP.

And, as usual, I expressed my opposition to both forbearance and delay, referring to arguments previously filed and disclosed.